

192-213

1912 Dates J-BK

Parthia lost the northern part  
of Assyria to Rome during the  
reign of King VOLOGESES IV

31 Dec 192

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Commodus was strangled  
at Rome in the VECTILIAN VILLA  
Buried in Mausoleum of Hadrian

Last day of 192

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Last day of AD 192 - death  
of Commodus

31 Dec 192

No-one was sure & those closest to the emperor decided to save their own lives by acting first. The key figure was ECLECTUS who had succeeded Cleander as imperial Chamberlain, Quintus Aemilius Laetus, commander of the Praetorian Guard, and Marcia, the emperor's favorite concubine. During evening of 31 Dec Marcia secretly gave Commodus poison. He was spending the night at the VECTILIAN VILLA.

(a school of gladiators near the Colosseum), ready for his star appearance next day. Feeling drowsy, Commodus went to his bedroom to lie down. The Assassins waited for Commodus to die, but instead got violently sick & vomited up the poison. Fearful that he would recover, they sent in a young athlete called NARCISSUS to finish the job by strangulation. Body was handed over to RABIRIUS POSTUMUS, Consul-elect that Commodus had planned to murder. He buried the body. Pertinax later put them in Mausoleum of Hadrian. Septimius Severus had him deified 4 yrs later.

31 Dec 192

The hated Commodus was dead.

LAETUS & ECLECTUS wrapped the emperor's body in bed-clothes & two of their trusted slaves carried it out of the VECTILIAN

VILLA as laundry, straight past the unsuspecting imperial guards. LAETUS & ECLECTUS then made their way through the streets of Rome to the residence of PUBLIUS HELVIUS PERTINAX. The midnight knock on the door caused great alarm on

the household. Laetus & Eclectus succeeded in  
convincing Pertinax that Commodus  
was dead. They offered him imperial power.  
The praetorian guard was won over by the  
offer of 12,000 sesterces each. Escorted by  
soldiers & people Pertinax then made  
his way through the dark streets to a  
meeting of the senate. They were castigating  
Commodus. Pertinax was empowered in  
the imperial power by receiving the title  
Augustus, along with all the customary honors.

31 Dec. 192

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Murder of Commodus  
Accession of PERTINAX



PERTINAX

Ruled 86 days  
MARCH 28, 193, the Praetorian guards  
struck him down

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